(c) if not, when such functions were transferred to IRCTC;

(d) whether IRCTC being a corporation earns revenue for providing the service for the Railways; and

(e) if so, the details of charges levied by the IRCTC on the Railways and the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been assigned the work of providing reservation on internet using the Indian Railway's computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS).

(b) Yes, Sir;

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No charges are levied on Railways.

Service Charges realized from customer are:

- i-ticket: Rs. 40/- per ticket for Sleeper/ reserved 2nd Sitting (2S) classes and Rs. 60/- per ticket for other classes.
- e-ticket: Rs. 15/- to Rs. 25/- per ticket in sleeper (SL)/ reserved 2nd Sitting (2S) classes and Rs. 20/- to Rs. 40/- per ticket in other classes depending upon the number of passengers.

**Black marketing of tickets**

828. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that common man is not having an access to confirmed railway tickets whereas black tickets are easily available;

(b) whether the waitlisted tickets do not improve the status even to a single point even after lapse of more than a month period whereas such tickets used to improve position many a times in a single day, two three years back;

(c) what measures are taken to control black marketing of tickets; and

(d) whether Government would consider roll back of tatkal scheme which has made upside down the availability of tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. Reserved tickets are available on first come first serve basis.

(b) Change in status of RAC/Waitlisted tickets is automatic and depends upon the cancellation of confirmed tickets.

(c) Measures taken include frequent checks in reservation offices, stations and in the premises of authorized/unauthorized agents, etc.

During the Financial Year 2008-09 & 2009-10(upto May 2009), 2521 and 298 touts respectively were apprehended and prosecuted.

Besides apprehending touts, Railways have also ensured availability of confirmed berths so that the intending passengers do not fall a prey to touts. The activities include augmentation of coaches and running of special trains so that more berths are available to passengers, provision of e-ticketing, proliferation of PRS etc.

(d) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal. However, it has been decided to revise Tatkal scheme to make it more user friendly.

**Headquarter quota for railway reservation**

†829.SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways headquarters has its quota for railway reservation and that falls under special and essential service category;

(b) if so, the criteria set for releasing the quota of headquarters;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time limit for Members of Parliament and Ministers to avail of the headquarters quota; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the reservation quota in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) In order to meet the urgent travel requirements of high official requisition holders, which includes Central/State Government Ministers, Judges of Supreme Court of India, High Courts of various States & MPs/MLAs/VIPs, a limited number of berths/seats have been earmarked as High Official Requisition(HOR) Quota in different trains and in different classes. The HOR quota is released in accordance with the priority as per warrant of precedence and well established practice being followed since long.

(c) The requests for release of berths should reach the quota controlling authority before the release of quota.

(d) Does not arise. Centralized details of reservation quota available in trains running on Indian Railways are not maintained.

**Halting of Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express at Falna junction**

†830.SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry is contemplating to make Falna junction a halt for Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express which runs from New Delhi to Ahmedabad;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi